

ED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

John R. Liddicoat et al.

Serial No.: Filing Date: 10/004,474 / 10/23/2001

Title:

AUTOMATED ANNULAR PLICATION

FOR MITRAL VALVE REPAIR

Group Art Unit:

3731

Examiner:

Unknown

Attorney's Docket No.:

VIA-12

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PETITION FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND

Applicant hereby petitions for a one (1) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Official Action mailed December 21, 2001 with respect to the above-identified patent application, thereby extending the time for response from February 21, 2002 to March 21, 2002.

A check in the amount of \$55.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of the petition fee. This petition fee has been calculated on the basis of Small Entity status.

In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed for the convenience of the Office.

Thank you.

HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED. WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANCE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON:

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

PS/VIA12.EXT

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Respectfully submitted,

Mannomani 3/13/02

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